

**TO: Chairman and Members**

**DATE: March 14, 2013**

**SUBJECT: Request to Approve a Planning Process for the  
Development of the Edward Byrne Memorial  
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)**

**AGENDA ITEM: G**

**ACTION: X  
INFORMATION:**

**RESOURCE PERSON: Daryle McDaniel**

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**Summary:**

This agenda item requests approval for the BSCC staff to create and implement a planning process for gathering data that will assist the Board in determining a plan for the next four-year strategy for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds. The Board will then determine the direction of the new four-year strategy and the development of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for distribution of JAG funds. California received just under \$20,000,000 in JAG funding in 2012. Pending the outcome of federal sequestration, it is anticipated that California will receive a similar award in 2013.

**Background:**

On July 1, 2012, BSCC became the State Administrative Agency responsible for oversight of funds for the JAG, which is a federally funded program administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The JAG has seven specific Program Purpose Areas including:

1. Law enforcement
2. Prosecution and court programs
3. Prevention and education programs
4. Corrections and community corrections
5. Drug treatment and enforcement
6. Crime victim and witness initiatives
7. Planning, evaluation and technology improvement programs

For many years, California's JAG funding has been used to support local and state drug suppression and enforcement efforts. The current year's funding concludes the four-year cycle for FY 2009 through FY 2012. The FY 2013 JAG application that BSCC submits to BJA must include a new four-year strategy, which describes the funding focus for FY 2013 through FY 2016.

In consideration of its mission to provide statewide leadership, coordination, and technical assistance to promote effective state and local efforts and partnerships in California's adult and juvenile criminal justice system, this Board expressed a desire to explore other available options for the use of JAG funds. To begin this process, BSCC staff requested technical assistance at no cost to BSCC from the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) on the process used by other states in developing a JAG four-year strategy. Based on the technical assistance provided by the NCJA and consistent with the requirement that the Board seek advice from a balanced range of stakeholders

and subject matter experts to inform the Board's decisions, BSCC staff is recommending the use of an online survey as well as a public comment sessions to solicit input on the use of JAG funds in California.

The survey will be conducted using Survey Monkey and will be posted on the BSCC Web site as well as distributed to all stakeholder groups, including currently funded projects, probation departments, sheriff departments, local and state law enforcement agencies, public defenders, district attorneys, victim services, judges, county administrators, and other interested parties. The BSCC will conduct three public comment sessions; one in the north part of the state, one in the central part of the state, and one in the southern part of the state. BSCC staff is requesting one or two Board members to participate on the panel at each of the public comment sessions. BSCC staff will compile the results of the survey and the public comment sessions and present the findings to the Board at a future Board meeting along with recommendations for the development of the four-year strategic plan.

It is anticipated that the FY 2013 JAG funding application will be due to BJA in May 2013, prior to the completion of the planning process and development of staff's recommendations to the Board. If that occurs, the BSCC's FY 2013 JAG funding application, which will be presented to the Board for approval at a future Board meeting, will consist of information about the strategic plan development activities and timelines that are underway as well as projected timelines for the completion of the strategic plan and the development of the RFP to distribute the JAG funding.

#### **Proposed JAG Activities and Timeline:**

March 14, 2013	Approval of planning process for JAG four-year strategy to include a survey and public comment sessions
March 25, 2013	Electronic release of survey
April 15-19, 2013	Conduct public comment sessions in north, central, and south regions of the state
April 22, 2013	Close access to survey
June 7, 2013	Complete survey and public comment session results
July 11, 2013	Present survey and public comment session results and staff recommendations at the Board meeting

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#### **Recommendation/Action Needed:**

BSCC staff request approval of the JAG activities and timeline, including developing a survey, and conducting three public comment sessions. BSCC staff further request the Board to designate one or two Board members to serve on the panel for each of the public comment sessions to support in the gathering of data from the stakeholders in the field and assist the Board in the development of the new JAG four-year strategy and RFP.

#### **Resource Person:**

Daryle McDaniel, Field Representative; (916) 341-7392; [daryle.mcdaniel@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:daryle.mcdaniel@bscc.ca.gov).